

MINUTES
JOINT EDUCATION, INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENT ADVISORY MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
UT Thompson Conference Center
2405 Robert Dedman Drive
Room – 3.102
Austin, Texas 78758
March 2, 2011--1:00- 2:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER. The Education, Industry, and Government Advisory Joint meeting was called to order by Mr. Lance Kinney, P.E., Executive Director with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers at 1:07 pm on March 2, 2011, at the UT Thompson Conference Center, 2405 Robert Dedman Drive, RM 3.102, Austin, TX.

1. Introduction of Committee Members.

G. Kemble Bennett, Ph.D., P.E.	Board Liaison, TBPE
William M. Berg, Ph. D.	University of Texas, Brownsville
Bill Carroll, Ph.D., P.E.	University of Texas, Arlington
James Dunham, Ph.D., P.E.	Southern Methodist University
Richard Schoephoerster, Ph.D., P.E.	UT El Paso
Mehdi Shadaram, Ph.D., P.E.	UT San Antonio
David Shattuck, Ph.D., P.E.	University of Houston
Roxanne Pillar, P.E.	Huitt-Zollars, Inc.
Perfecto Solis, P.E.	DFWIA - CDP Satellite Office
Coy Veach, P.E.	Freese and Nichols
Jose I. Guerra, P.E.	Guerra Engineering Inc.
Lamberto "Bobby" Balli, P.E.	Board Member, TBPE
Mike Noth	LCRA
Kevin Pate	City of Brownwood
Randy Childers	City of Killeen
Howard Slobodin	TRA
Susana Hildebrand, P.E.	TCEQ
Joe Trammel	Tarrant County
Nancy Ellen Soteriou, Ph.D.	TxDOT
Allen Shubert	City of El Paso
E.T. Dickerson, P.E.	City of Houston
Donald R. Hatcher	City of Brownwood
Daniel Wong, Ph.D., P.E.	Board Liaison, TBPE

Staff present:

Lance Kinney, P.E.	Executive Director
Priscilla Pipho	Deputy Executive Director
C.W. Clark, P.E.	Director of Compliance & Enforcement
David Howell, P.E.	Director of Licensing
Clif Bond	Lead Investigator
Dorothy Gonzales	Executive Assistant

Visitors: None.

2. Public Comment. None

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION.

3. Consider and accept minutes from January 29, 2010, Joint meeting of the Education and Industry Advisory Committees.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Carroll/Pillar) to approve the January 29, 2010 Joint meeting minutes as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

4. Issues for discussion and possible action from: Educational Advisory Committee.

Dr. Schoephoerster reported that the Education Committee discussed the 82nd Legislative Session and current Bills being tracked that may affect the profession; the Architects and Engineers overlap, and continuing efforts to resolve the issue; the teaching of engineering not allowed as a qualification towards licensure; his efforts to work with TSPE to get the language in the statute change to allow teaching experience be allowed as a qualification; statewide effort to get common curricula for engineering students to transfer between colleges especially from community colleges; and proposed changes to the rule on faithful agent. For detail information please see the March 2, 2011, Education Advisory Committee minutes.

5. Issues for discussion and possible action from: Industry Advisory Committee.

Mr. Veach, Vice Chair of the Industry Committee reported that the Committee did not have a quorum, no action was taken on any of the agenda items. Dr. Frailey, Chair of the Committee was unable to attend. However, the committee is allowed and discussed the following: to promote to students the importance of licensure; faithful agent; invite owners to participate as members of the Committee; thoughts on BS+30, and not much movement on this issue.

6. Issues for discussion and possible action from: Government Advisory Committee.

Mr. Shubert, Vice Chair of the Government Advisory Committee reported that the Committee discussed the engineers/architects overlap issues and concern regarding how this is affecting municipalities; the proposed changes to the faithful agent rule was a strong discussion, comments will be sent individually to the Board. Legislative liaison: the main concern about HB 1164 is that it would not allow the Board to take action against political subdivisions; competency certification - hold engineers accountable according to the Board's Act and make sure they practice in the area they are competent in, the Committee suggested the Board consider certification. Communication skills training should be counted towards CEUs.

--**Discussion.** The Joint Committee members discussed suggestions to colleges and universities on increasing the engineering student's awareness and importance of licensure, technical experience, soft skills, and team projects. Dean Carroll shared the changes made at the engineering school at UT Arlington which incorporated all the suggestions mentioned, and the continued effort like new spec labs designed to support team oriented design projects. He asked the professionals to make themselves visible and visit schools as well. Dr. Bennett said that Texas A&M is ranked second nationally for preparing engineering students for work. He added that team design projects start while the student is classified as a freshman; sophomore and junior year, the student gets more hands on experience and they now have W classes emphasizing in the writing skills, and have included technology classes into the curricula. The Committee also discussed certification for project managers. Mr. Veach commented that employers who hire engineers look at what additional experience or how the engineer has gone above and beyond getting licensed, i.e. additional certification. Mr. Kinney commented that the Board

rules do not require engineers to have any type of additional certification. Mr. Veach responded that owners look for it as a plus for the company.

The Committee discussed the proposed rule changes for faithful agent. Mr. Veach commented that the IAC suggested that it be part of the education curricula. Mr. Shubert added that the GAC discussed at length but did not come a consensus. Ms. Pillar said that the law is written to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. She is in favor of the Canadian definition of faithful agent. The Committee discussed that the Engineering Practice Act already addresses some of the same definitions in the faithful agent rule. The Committee discussed some of the issues the Board has encountered when enforcing the faithful agent rule. The Board would like to clarify and try to define faithful agent more clearly. Mr. Kinney closed the discussion by suggesting that the ideas from the discussion be taken back to the Board and presented at the next scheduled Board meeting. He thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in the discussions. He stated that he would keep them up to date with any legislative action that would affect the profession or the Board.

7. Next scheduled meeting.

A meeting matrix will be sent to schedule the next joint advisory committee meeting.

8. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Date the minutes were approved as submitted:	March 23, 2012
Date the minutes were accepted by the Board:	May 24 2012